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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/701,259	11/04/2003	Peiguang Zhou	KCC-19,694	6079
7590	11/14/2006			
			EXAMINER	
			ZIMMER, MARC S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1712	
DATE MAILED: 11/14/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/701,259	ZHOU ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Marc S. Zimmer	1712	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-24 and 38-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11-13, 15-24, 38-46, 48, 49, 51-56 and 60 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 14, 47, 50 and 57-59 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

Claim Objections

Claims 22 and 52 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claims 46 and 51 respectively. When two claims in an application are duplicates or else are so close in content that they both cover the same thing, despite a slight difference in wording, it is proper after allowing one claim to object to the other as being a substantial duplicate of the allowed claim. See MPEP § 706.03(k).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 11-13, 15-24, 38-46, 48-49, 51-53, 55-56 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nesculescu et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0005832.

The applied reference has a common assignee and inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this

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application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Concerning new claims 38-46, 48-49, 51-53, 55-56, and 60, the Examiner had not taken note of their introduction in Applicant's reply dated November 10, 2005. These claims are anticipated by the teachings at paragraphs 48, 55, 60, 80 and 81. Any property limitations outlined in these claims, but not expressly disclosed by the reference, are inherently satisfied inasmuch as Nesculesca contemplates using the same polymer materials as components of the adhesive and thermoplastic elastomer strands.

Applicant has attempted to overcome this reference by claiming priority of the instant invention back to the application on which this reference is based. However, Applicant is not entitled to the benefit of priority to Nesculescu et al. because that disclosure is not fully enabling of the scope of claim 1. Though it is true that the favored embodiments of an adhesive as described by the reference are, in fact, coincident with those preferred by Applicant, claim 11 embraces potentially many more adhesive compositions than those comprising, for instance, the elastomer materials of claim 18 and/or the tackifiers of claim 20.

Claims 11, 18, 19, 38-41, and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Udipi et al., U.S. patent # 4,135,037. Udipi describes adhesive compositions comprising epoxidized copolymers of conjugated diene and

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monovinylarene and rosin based tackifiers. See column 1, lines 3-20, column 1, lines 61-66, and the paragraph bridging columns 2 and 3. The viscosity of the overall composition is reported at a different temperature (column 3, lines 37-42) but it is the Examiner's position that this limitation is inherently satisfied given that (i) materials similar to those advocated by Applicant are being used (recipe 3) and, there is even overlap of the viscosity range disclosed by the reference at the claim's lower endpoint (100,000 cp) and the higher endpoint mentioned in the reference. Further it is expected that, were the viscosities of the adhesives contemplated by Udupi to have been measured within the range set out in claim 1, there would be significant overlap with the claimed range because the viscosity is expected to be higher at lower temperatures.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14, 47, 50, and 57-59 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc S. Zimmer whose telephone number is 571-272-1096. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Randy Gulakowski can be reached on 571-272-1302. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

October 26, 2006



MARCS ZIMMER
PRIMARY EXAMINER